

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS, NOVEMBER 22, 1944.

The Board of Public Works met on November 22, 1944, in the office of the Governor, Union Trust Building, Baltimore, Maryland.

There were present:

Herbert R. O'Connor, Governor  
Hooper S. Miles, Treasurer  
J. Millard Tawes, Comptroller.

Mr. Walter N. Kirkman, Director, Department of Budget and Procurement, also attended the meeting.

The Minutes of the meeting of October 24, 1944, copy of which was sent to each member of the Board, were approved.

BOARD OF MENTAL HYGIENE:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Dr. George H. Preston, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, complaining about the compensation provided for employees of the mental institutions of the State and requesting an opportunity for himself and the superintendents of the hospitals to appear before the Board of Public Works relative to this matter.

The Secretary was instructed to advise Dr. Preston as to the date on which the next meeting of the Board will be held, so that he and the superintendents will have an opportunity to appear before the Board, as requested.

BUDGET:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a statement which had been prepared by the State Comptroller's Office, showing the contributions made by the State in the case of employees in agencies maintained out of Special Funds to the Employees Retirement System and requesting that some action be taken relative to having the General Treasury of the State reimbursed out of Special Funds for the contributions so made.

After careful discussion of the matter, it was agreed that in a number of cases it would not be possible to transfer, because of the lack of funds coming into the hands of certain special funds departments, the amounts which it would be necessary to transfer to reimburse the General Funds for the contributions made on behalf of employees of the special funds departments.

It was agreed that the State Comptroller's Office would review the list submitted and decide upon the departments where it would be possible to make the transfers and to file with the Board at a later meeting a report listing the departments where it is impossible to make the transfers and to also list the amounts transferred.

THE CARDINAL GIBBONS INSTITUTE:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Rev. Horace B. McKenna, S.J., Superintendent of The Cardinal Gibbons Institute, presenting the financial, extension, and social welfare report of the Institute for the period October 1, 1943 to October 1, 1944.

Father McKenna requested that the Board allot to the Institute, at this time, the sum of \$1,000.00 of the appropriation of \$2,000.00 to the Institute for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945, and the Board approved his request.

CHELTENHAM SCHOOL FOR BOYS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board correspondence received from Cheltenham School for Boys requesting that authorization be given for proceeding with the construction, at this time, of a Dining Hall and Culinary Unit, an Apartment for staff members, and an Intake Building.

After discussion of this matter, it was decided that the situation at this time justifies approval of construction of the Dining Hall and Culinary Unit, and of the Apartment or dormitory building, but that the Intake Building recommended might be deferred until later. The Secretary was instructed to advise Cheltenham School for Boys accordingly. The cost of these improvements is to be taken from the Post-War Construction Fund.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. F. Reid Isaac, President, Board of Managers, Cheltenham School for Boys, relative to two possible sites for the new Training School for Colored Boys. As it is understood a further recommendation is to be received relative to a site which has come to the attention of the institution recently, any action on the matter of considering a site for the new school was deferred until further information could come before the Board.

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY:

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board the existence of certain balances charged to the Collectors of State Taxes for Kent County for the years 1931 to 1942, inclusive, as follows:

1931-1934	H. Stockton Startt, Collector	\$111.20
1935-1938	Walter T. Morris, Collector	749.30
1939-1942	James J. Hadaway, Collector	285.17.

These figures were established by the State Auditor as a result of a recent audit of the accounts and records of the Office of Collector of State Taxes for Kent County. It was found, however, that while these balances were found to be due as the result of certifications of assessments and allowances in the basis for the years in question, the accounts of the office show that there are no unpaid individual tax accounts for the years in question. In discussing the matter with the State Comptroller, the State Auditor advised that this situation could easily be the result of errors which would not cause the State to lose money if the Board were to authorize the writing off of these balances as uncollectible. The situation with reference to the handling of accounts in the office of the Collector has been changed in the last two years so that a more complete control over tax accounts can be kept and wherever the control accounts show balances due these balances will be supported by individual accounts for uncollected taxes.

Under the circumstances, the Comptroller thought the practical thing to do would be to write off the accounts for the years 1931 to 1942, inclusive, as indicated above, and requested the necessary authority from the Board to carry out this recommendation.

The Board approved the recommendation and request of the Comptroller.

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Upon recommendation of the Comptroller, the Board approved the payment of refunds from Miscellaneous Appropriation #2, Item #18, as follows:

Title Tax		\$19.96
Edward William Whaley	\$16.94	
Richard W. Force	3.02	
Real Estate Tax		133.12
Wade H. Mason	\$133.12	

CONVENTIONS:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. R. C. Thompson, Director, Vocational Rehabilitation Service, Department of Education, requesting that Mr. Thomas D. Braun, Case Work Supervisor, be reimbursed for expenses totaling \$87.32, incurred in attending the meeting of the National Rehabilitation Association held in Chicago the early part of November.

The request was approved.

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The Board approved request of the Maryland Real Estate Commission for Mr. Wm. G. Nicholson, Executive Secretary of the Commission, to attend the meeting of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, to be held November 27th to 29th, in Chicago.

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The Board approved request of Dr. R. H. Riley, Director, Department of Health, for representation of that department at the National Venereal Disease Conference held November 9-11, in St. Louis.

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The Board confirmed verbal approval given to Judge Wm. C. Walsh, Attorney General, for him to attend the annual convention of the National Association of Attorneys General, held in Omaha, Nebraska, November 18 to 21st, 1944, together with two Assistant Attorneys General - J. Edgar Harvey and Albert A. Levin.

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The Board discussed the matter of approval of officials and employees of State agencies at annual conventions and conferences, and decided that in the future the State Comptroller would have authority to approve expense accounts of such officials and employees attending annual conventions or conferences, without authority for such attendance being obtained in advance from the Board of Public Works. The Comptroller stated that he would watch this matter closely so that no abuse of the privilege of attending conventions and conferences would exist, and that in any cases where he felt any criticism might be in order, he would bring the matter to the attention of the Board.

CROWNSVILLE STATE HOSPITAL:

The Board confirmed verbal approval previously given to Crownsville State Hospital to use the unexpended balance in the General Bond Issue of 1939 in the amount of \$3,946.13, in connection with contract between the hospital and Charles T. King Co., for the replacing of a steam main between the Power Plant and the Superintendent's Residence.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Dr. T. G. Pullen, Jr., State Superintendent of Schools, requesting approval to action of the Department of Education and the State Teachers College at Towson, Maryland, in allowing twenty (20) students of Goucher College to be housed temporarily in the unused portion of the dormitory at the Towson State Teachers College, because of the use of the dormitories of Goucher College by the Army to take care of students entering the service. The State Teachers College will be reimbursed for the use of the space and for the services necessary for the college to render in connection therewith. A letter addressed to Dr. Pullen by Miss M. Theresa Wiedefeld, President, State Teachers College at Towson, outlined the arranged plans, and a copy of her letter was attached to Dr. Pullen's request.

The Board approved the arrangement set forth by Dr. Pullen.

LEASES:

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved the execution of the following leases:

- Cheltenham School for Boys - Banneker Building Company, for one year from October 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$240.00, being two office rooms on the third floor of the Banneker Building located at 14 East Pleasant Street, Baltimore, Maryland.
- State Aviation Commission - The Munsey Building Company, for one year from November 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$420.00, Room 917 Munsey Building, Baltimore, Maryland.
- State Board of Correction - The Calvert Building and Construction Company, for one year from January 1, 1945, at an annual rental of \$1,740.00, covering Rooms 361-369 Calvert Building, Baltimore.
- State Board of Education - Consolidated Gas, Electric Light and Power Company, for the term of eleven (11) months from November 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$1,320.00, covering Room No. 1107 of the Lexington Building, Baltimore.
- State Board of Examining Engineers - Court Square Building, Inc., for a term of one year from December 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$420.00, covering Suite 1716 Court Square Building, Baltimore.
- State Industrial Accident Commission - The Calvert Building and Construction Company, for a term of one year from November 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$12,229.00, Suite 741 and Rooms Nos. 723, 725, 728, 744, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, and 751 and 752, and the storage space in the basement, Calvert Building, Baltimore.
- Unemployment Compensation Board - Mountain City Camp #6, Woodmen of the World, for a term of five years from October 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$3,300.00, covering the entire first floor of #146 Union Street, Cumberland, Maryland.
- University of Maryland - Trustees of Masonic Temple, for a term of one year from July 1, 1944, of one office located on the second floor of the Masonic Temple Building, being Room 24, Masonic Temple Building, 114-116 N. Washington Street, Easton, Maryland, in connection with the Farm Labor Placement Office, Emergency Farm Labor Program of the Extension Service of the University, at an annual rental of \$150.00 per year.
- University of Maryland - Alpha Sigma Chapter Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity, Inc., for one year from July 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$2,400.00 and certain repairs and improvements to the property in an amount equal to at least \$600.00, covering Dwelling located on Knox Road West of Baltimore Boulevard in College Park.
- University of Maryland - Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni Association, Inc., of dwelling located at 7511 Princeton Street, College Park, for a term of one year from July 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$2,068.00 and certain repairs and improvements in an amount equal to at least \$300.00.
- University of Maryland - Beta Kappa Corporation, for a term of one year from August 1, 1944, of Dwelling at 4400 Knox Road West of the Baltimore Boulevard in College Park, at an annual rental of \$2,000.00.
- University of Maryland - Nu Sigma Omicron Fraternity, Inc., of Dwelling located on College Avenue in College, formerly used to house the Alpha Chapter of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, for a term of one year from August 1, 1944, at an annual rental of \$2,667.00.
- University of Maryland - Sigma Phi Sigma Fraternity, at an annual rental of \$2,400.00, for a term of six months from October 1, 1944, covering Dwelling located on Norwich Road, College Park, formerly used by Gamma Chi Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

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Mr. Kirkman advised the Board of receipt of notice from Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, Inc. of its intention to extend the period of occupancy of the space in the State Tobacco Warehouse covered by lease dated January 1st, 1944, between Bethlehem-Fairfield Shipyard, Inc. and the State of Maryland, for the additional period to terminate June 30, 1945.

MARYLAND COMMISSION ON POST-WAR CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board the matter of construction authorized for the Maryland Training School for Colored Girls, at Glen Burnie, Maryland, and stated that Mr. Frederic A. Fletcher, the architect selected for the work, had been in touch with him for advice as to how far he should go in being governed by directions received from the Board of Managers of the School. Mr. Fletcher had stated that while the information received by him from the Board of Public Works showed that the construction is to include one cottage to house fifty (50) girls, he was requested by the Board of Managers of the School to prepare plans for two (2) cottages to take care of twenty-five (25) girls, each.

Mr. Fletcher called attention to the fact that two cottages would be more expensive to construct and would also result in increased maintenance costs, but that he was interested in knowing how he should proceed and from whom he should receive definite instructions.

After discussing the matter, the Board affirmed its previous action of authorizing one (1) cottage to house fifty (50) girls, and disapproved the proposal to substitute therefor two (2) cottages to house twenty-five (25) girls, each.

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The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from Mr. W. Lee Elgin, Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, suggesting that Mr. Frederic A. Fletcher do the architectural work incident to the construction of an addition to the building of the Department of Motor Vehicles under the post-war program of the State.

The Board deferred action on the recommendation.

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The Secretary reported that he had received from Dr. D. O. W. Holmes, President, Morgan State College, a letter advising of completion of the preliminary plans and specifications, in blueprint form, for the dormitory at Morgan State College, and that the drawings have the approval of the Board of Trustees of the school. Working plans will be made in due course. The letter was considered as being information for the Board of Public Works relating to the progress of the work.

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The Board took up for consideration the matter of selection of a site on the Western Shore for the Chronic Disease Hospital to be erected in that part of the State.

The Governor stated that because of representations made by Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and some of the doctors and others interested in the work to be done by these hospitals, it seems to be inevitable that a third hospital would have to be constructed in the future and since that third unit would have to be convenient to Baltimore City and Baltimore County, it seemed logical that the location of the unit already planned for the Western Shore should be located at Hagerstown.

This matter was discussed fully and it was the conclusions of all concerned that under the circumstances the advisable thing to do would be to accept the offer made by the County Commissioners of Washington County in their letter dated November 1, 1944 of turning over to the State, without cost, the property consisting of seventy-five (75) acres, more or less, known as the Washington County Home for the Poor, providing the property is used for the site of the Chronic Disease Hospital as authorized in Chapter 170 of the Acts of 1943.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was unanimously decided to accept the offer of the County Commissioners of Washington County.

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The Board approved statement submitted by the Secretary showing funds available in the amount of \$2,555,578.54 in the Post War Construction Fund as of November 22, 1944.

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Mr. Kirkman stated that he had obtained some figures as to the cost of the proposed changes at the State Tobacco Warehouse to remodel it to provide warehouse and office space for the Department of Budget and Procurement, and that the estimated figures are somewhat in excess of the amount originally indicated to the Board would take care of the cost of the work. The architect has advised that the estimated cost of the work, in accordance with the plans reviewed by the Board at its last meeting, would be \$85,350.00.

The Board advised Mr. Kirkman that it thought he should go ahead with his plans for using this space and that it would approve the expenditure of \$85,350.00 to take care of the cost of the work.

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Mr. Kirkman brought to the attention of the Board the recommendation of Mr. A. L. Penniman, of the Department of Health, that tests be made to determine the soil conditions in the new site for the State Department of Health, the cost of which would be approximately \$400.00.

After discussing the matter it was concluded that because of construction already on the property and in the immediate vicinity there was hardly any likelihood of finding any unfavorable soil conditions in connection with the proposed construction for the State Department of Health on the site, and that the State would be justified in proceeding with the work without the necessity of going to this additional expense.

#### MARYLAND STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF:

The Board approved request received from Mr. Ignatius Bjorlee, Superintendent, Maryland State School for the Deaf, that the School be authorized to purchase an institution dish washing machine at a cost of approximately \$715.00, payment to be made from funds available to the School in the General Bond Issue of 1941.

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Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved an allotment of \$1,500.00 from the General Emergency Fund to supplement the budget of the school to meet the increased cost of fuel.

#### MARYLAND TRAINING SCHOOL FOR COLORED GIRLS:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved the transfer of the necessary funds, by budget amendment, to take care of the cost of the installation of stokers for the boilers at the school.

#### STOCK CERTIFICATES:

The Comptroller brought to the attention of the Board a list of Certificates of Beneficial Interest, etc. owned by the State as of October 31, 1944, arising out of the banking difficulties in 1933, and stated he thought it would be well to take some steps to determine at this time whether any of these certificates have any present-day or any prospective future value, and what might be done, if anything, at this time by the State in connection with them.

At the suggestion of Mr. Miles, the Secretary was requested to confer with the Bank Commissioner for the purpose of obtaining from him any information or advice he might have relative to the certificates issued in connection with the State banks which are involved.

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Mr. Miles asked that there be covered in the Minutes of this meeting, authority for the selling of \$5,000,000 United States Treasury 7/8th % bonds which the State purchased last year and which are redeemable June 1, 1945, and that he purchase in lieu thereof \$5,000,000 of 7/8th % bonds maturing December 1, 1945.

The Board approved the sale and purchase of the bonds as requested.

#### STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved request of the Department of Health for authority to compensate two of its regular employees for time worked when it was not possible to permit them to take their vacation and holidays. These employees are Henry Justus and Ernest Threat.

#### STATE EMPLOYEES:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board copy of communication addressed to the Governor, as Chairman of the Board of Public Works, by Mr. Charles D. Harris, Counsel, Maryland Classified Employees Association, Inc. relative to the subject of uniform work week for classified State employees.

It was felt that no action could be taken in the matter at this time.

#### STATE EMPLOYMENT COMMISSIONER:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, request of the State Employment Commissioners for permission to rent a typewriter, privately owned by an employee of that department, for a period of thirty (30) days, at the rate of \$5.00 per month, was approved.

#### STATE PROPERTY:

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board approved the disposal of the following State property no longer needed by the agency owning it, as indicated below.

Miners Hospital - sale of wall urinal for \$16.00.

State Roads Commission - Condemnation Reports #3697, #3878, #3173, #3699, #3608, #3698, #3879, #3262, #3120, #3223, #3224, #3249, #3332, and #3880.

Department of Budget and Procurement - sale of floor waxer to a State employee for \$10.00, as the waxer is now out of repair.

Department of Budget and Procurement - Sale of Freas Oven for \$65.00.

State Teachers College of Salisbury - Sale of water meter to the City of Salisbury for \$143.00.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND:

The Secretary brought to the attention of the Board a communication from the University Hospital relative to the case of Mary Brusga, who received treatment at the hospital over an extended period of time made necessary by injuries received in an automobile accident, with charges for room and services amounting to \$2,957.60. The hospital recommends that the State accept in settlement of its account the sum of \$1,552.74.

The file in the case shows that a settlement proposed between Mary Brusga and Henry O. Slusky would result in Mr. Slusky paying \$4,552.00, out of which Mr. Julius A. Victor, Jr., attorney for Mrs. Brusga, would receive \$1,400.00 for attorney's services; \$500.00 would be given to Mrs. Brusga in satisfaction of her injuries; and that the balance would be divided among doctors, nurses, and others rendering services in the case. The hospital and those rendering services would receive approximately 52½% of the amount paid by Mr. Slusky, with the attorney receiving \$1,400.00 and Mrs. Brusga, \$500.00. The settlement proposed carries the recommendation of Mr. J. Edgar Harvey, Assistant Attorney General.

After due consideration, the Board approved the request of the Hospital that it be authorized to accept \$1,552.74 in settlement of its claim of \$2,957.60 for hospital treatment, etc. furnished Mrs. Brusga.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:Court of Appeals Building

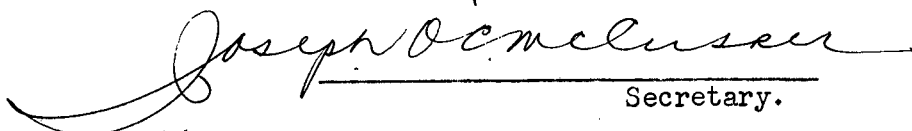
The Governor advised the Board that because of the reorganization of the Court of Appeals, as approved in the constitutional amendment adopted at the recent election, and because of the inadequacy of the facilities available to the members of the Court, he had asked Mr. Frederic A. Fletcher, architect, to confer with the Court of Appeals with a view to remodeling a part of the Court of Appeals Building to provide private offices for the members of the Court and for other Court facilities. The Governor submitted a blue print to cover the proposed changes, which involve the use of the room formerly used by the State Comptroller as a private office as an office for the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, and the office used by the General Department of the State Comptroller's Office being subdivided into offices so that each Judge would have a private office. The Governor stated that there is approximately \$60,000 available to take care of the cost of the proposed work and recommended that steps be taken at once to have the work done.

The Board approved the Governor's recommendation, with the understanding that Mr. Fletcher would proceed at once to ask for bids from contractors for the doing of the work. It was stated that the use of this space would necessarily require the vacating of the space by the American Red Cross which it has been occupying as offices during recent months in connection with the war work it is doing.

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND PROCUREMENT:

The Board approved recommendation of Mr. Kirkman that the State Library be authorized to release one set of the Annotated Code of Maryland, 1939 Edition, to the State Library at Kansas on an exchange basis.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

  
Secretary.

STATE EMPLOYMENT COMMISSIONER:

Upon recommendation of Mr. Kirkman, the Board allotted \$900.00 from the General Emergency Fund to the State Employment Commissioner to cover the cost of dictaphone equipment which it is desired to purchase for the use of that department.

